

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**November 13, 2017**  
**Auditorium**

**Present:** Councilmembers Anderson, Bullock, Litten, Marx, Nowlin, O’Leary, O’Malley

**Also Present:** Director Sylvester, Katelyn Milius, Robyn Minter Smyers of Thompson Hine, Finance Director Pae, Assistant Law Director Swallow, Mayor Summers, Council-elect Tristan Rader and Meghan George, members of the public

**Call to Order:** 7:12 p.m.

**Communication from Mayor Summers, Council President O’Leary and Planning Director Sylvester regarding Recommended Developer for the Mixed-Use Development in the Heart of Lakewood**

Councilmember O’Leary initiated a conversation about hiring an outside consultant to assist Council with its due diligence regarding the downtown development discussions with Carnegie. He called for a discussion about Council’s expectations about such an engagement and the frequency with which Council would like to receive updates should it move forward in retaining an outside professional

Robyn Minter Smyers was introduced. She is currently working with on the transaction with Carnegie regarding the transformation of the Hospital site.

Councilmember O’Leary suggested that Council retain the expertise of Tracey Nichols who oversaw the citizen panel. He remarked on her experience and expertise including serving as the Economic Development Director of the City of Cleveland. Ms. Nichols was under contract with the City but the contract expired after the work of the citizen panel concluded.

Councilmembers expressed support for the assistance of an outside professional to weigh in and ensure that the right questions are asked during the process.

Director Pae remarked that appropriations are in place in the Lakewood Hospital Fund for this purpose and that contracting authority is available under professional services. Board of Control would ultimately evaluate this contract.

Director Sylvester agreed to provide written materials regarding the qualifications of Ms. Nichols to all councilmembers.

Ms. Minter Smyers discussed Ms. Nichols professional achievements and known work. She offered many examples of the expertise Ms. Nichols will bring to the table.

Councilmember O’Leary concluded that Committee of the Whole will continue discussion on this topic after Council has time to review written materials.

The Committee discussed expectations for how regularly it would like to receive updates either in person or in writing.

Committee members concluded that it would be ideal to receive a written update every two weeks and a face-to-face update every four weeks.

Councilmember O'Leary remarked that it would be best if Councilmembers could collaborate on questions and filter them through the Law Department so as not to be repetitive.

A motion was made by Councilmember O'Leary, seconded by Councilmember Anderson to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the sale and/or acquisition of land.

Director Sylvester, Katelyn Milius, Robyn Minter Smyers of Thompson Hine, Finance Director Pae, Assistant Law Director Swallow, Mayor Summers, Council-elect Tristan Rader and Meghan George, and Council Liaison Bach were included in Executive Session.

A Roll Call vote was taken. All members voted in yea to enter Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

Committee of the Whole exited Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

Councilmember O'Malley requested additional information about Carnegie.

Committee agreed to resume discussions on Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> for one hour.

Committee of the Whole adjourned 8:21 p.m.